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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: M. OTA et al.
Serial No.: 08/816,891
Filed: March 13, 1997
For: MATRIX PANEL DISPLAY APPARATUS AND DRIVING
METHOD THEREFOR WHEREIN AUXILIARY SIGNALS
ARE APPLIED TO NON-SELECTED PICTURE
ELEMENTS
Art Unit: 2675
Examiner: C. Nguyen

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 5, 2003

Sir:

A first Office Action on the merits was mailed on August 6, 1998, in connection with the above-identified application. However, it is submitted that the Office Action of August 6, 1998, is improper for the reasons discussed in the petition to the Commissioner under 37 CFR 1.181(a)(1) of August 17, 1998.

The Examiner has acknowledged in a telephone discussion with the applicants' representatives at the law firm indicated below that he is required to issue a new Office Action to replace the Office Action of August 6, 1998, pursuant to the comments in the interview summary mailed on February 8, 1999, for a telephone interview conducted on February 8, 1999, between the

applicants' representatives and SPE Richard Hjerpe (who was acting on behalf of the Examiner's SPE Steven Saras) during which the petition to the Commissioner under 37 CFR 1.181(a)(1) filed on August 17, 1998, was discussed.

Since the Office Action of August 6, 1998, is improper, and the Examiner is required to issue a new Office Action to replace the Office Action of August 6, 1998, it is submitted that a first Office Action on the merits will not actually have been mailed until the new Office Action which the Examiner is required to issue has been mailed. It appears that the new Office Action had not been mailed as of the filing date of this Information Disclosure Statement, such that, as far as could be determined, this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(b)(3).

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(b)(3) and 1.98, attached hereto are a copy of U.S. Patent No. 5,706,023 and a form PTO-1449 listing this reference.

Also listed on the form PTO-1449 are Japanese references 2-913 and 4-145490 and the following two references:

S. Nagata et al., "Capacitively Coupled Driving of TFT-LCD", Society for Information Display International Symposium Digest of Technical Papers, Volume XX (SID 89 Digest), Baltimore Convention Center, Baltimore, MD, May 16-18, 1989, pp. 242-245.

H. Maeda et al., "A 15-in.-Diagonal Full-Color High-Resolution TFT-LCD", Society for Information Display International Symposium Digest of Technical Papers, Volume XXIII (SID 92 Digest), Hynes

Convention Center, Boston, MA, May 17-22, 1992,
pp. 47-50.

Copies of Japanese references 2-913 and 4-145490, the SID 89 Digest reference, and the SID 92 Digest reference were submitted on October 23, 1993, when parent application Serial No. 08/139,904 of the present Rule 62 divisional application was filed, together with a sheet entitled "List and Copies of Document(s) as Indicated" listing these four references. The Examiner listed these four references on the form PTO-892 attached to the Office Action of May 15, 1996, issued in parent application Serial No. 08/139,904 to indicate that these four references have been considered. However, more complete citations of these four references have been provided on the attached form PTO-1449.

Attached hereto are English abstracts of Japanese references 2-913 and 4-145490.

Japanese references 2-913 and 4-145490 are cited on page 3 of the specification.

The SID 89 Digest reference and the SID 92 Digest reference are cited on page 2 of the specification.

U.S. Patent No. 5,706,023 is a U.S. counterpart of Japanese reference 2-913 based on the fact that both U.S. Patent No. 5,706,023 and Japanese reference 9-213 claim the right of priority based on Japanese application 63-58765 filed on March 11, 1988.

Japanese references 2-913 and 4-145490 are not in the English language.

The concise explanation of the relevance of Japanese reference 2-913 required by 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(i) is provided by the English abstract of this reference; by U.S. Patent No. 5,706,023 which is a U.S. counterpart of this reference; and by the discussion of this reference in the specification as permitted by the last sentence of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(i).

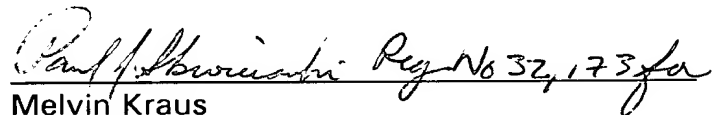
The concise explanation of the relevance of Japanese reference 4-145490 required by 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(i) is provided by the English abstract of this reference, and by the discussion of this reference in the specification as permitted by the last sentence of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(i).

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(b)(3), as far as could be determined, this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits for the reasons discussed above.

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be considered.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments

